

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /131 R

DRAFTED BY L/UNA:SCNELSON:JNP

8/22/73 - EXT. 21320

APPROVED BY IO - DR. MOREY

IO/CMD - MR. MCDONALD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 167328

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: ENLARGEMENT OF ECOSOC

REF: STATE 166087

1. THIS MESSAGE SUPERSEDES REFTEL.

2. ASSUMING US RATIFICATION TO AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 61 OF CHARTER IS DEPOSITED BY BEGINNING OF 28TH UNGA, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR GA TO COMPLETE ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS OF ECOSOC PRIOR TO RESUMED 55TH SESSION COMMENCING OCTOBER 15. IN OUR VIEW, ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS FOR COUNCIL EXPANSION COULD BE INCLUDED UNDER AGENDA ITEM ON REGULAR ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS (ITEM 17 IN ANNOTATED PRELIMINARY LIST, DOC. A/9090). WHILE THAT ITEM, AS WELL AS RULE 147 OF GA RULES OF PROCEDURE, CALLS FOR ELECTION OF ONLY NINE MEMBERS OF ECOSOC FOR TERM OF THREE YEARS, UNGA RES. 2847 (XXVI) WOULD AMEND RULE 147 AS OF THE DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 61 TO PROVIDE FOR ANNUAL ELECTION OF 18 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL FOR TERM OF THREE YEARS- IN ADDITION, PARA 3 OF AMENDED ARTICLE 61 CALLS FOR ELECTION OF 27 ADDITIONAL MEMBERS REQUIRED FOR EXPAN-

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SION "AT THE FIRST ELECTION AFTER THE INCREASE IN THE

MEMBERSHIP OF (ECOSOC) FROM 27 TO 54 MEMBERS". THUS, IN OUR VIEW, GA COULD NOT SIMPLY ELECT 9 NEW MEMBERS UNDER PRESENT AGENDA ITEM IF AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 61 HAD ENTERED INTO FORCE AT THAT TIME BUT WOULD HAVE TO ELECT

NEW EXPANSION MEMBERS AS WELL. WE WOULD PERCEIVE NO LEGAL OBSTACLES TO COMPLETION OF THIS PROCEDURE BY OCTOBER 15.

3. PROCEDURALLY, WE ASSUME ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS COULD NOT BE ACHIEVED PRIOR TO OCTOBER 15 UNLESS THIS ITEM PLACED VERY HIGH ON AGENDA. WE SEE NO REASON THIS COULD NOT BE DONE IN GENERAL COMMITTEE OR GENERAL ASSEMBLY IF LARGE NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS WANTED TO DO SO.

4. REQUEST MISSION'S VIEWS ON LEGAL ASPECTS AS WELL AS CONFIRMATION WITH SECRETARIAT IF YOU CONSIDER IT NECESSARY. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION MISSION MAY HAVE ON POSSIBLE MOVE TO COMPLETE ELECTION PRIOR TO OCTOBER 15 IN EVENT US RATIFIES PRIOR TO THAT DATE.

5. FYI. DEPARTMENT'S MAJOR CONCERN IS THAT WE BE PREPARED FOR RESUMPTION OF 55TH ECOSOC IN EXPANDED FORM IF EXPANSION LIKELY. ROGERS

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